Check List 9(1): 051–058, 2013
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ISSN 1809-127X (available at *www.checklist.org.br*)

Check List
Journal of species lists and distribution

LISTS OF SPECIES

Plant Diversity of Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra, India: A brief survey

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ABSTRACT: A qualitative survey was carried out during 2005- 2010 of all indigenous and naturalized plants of Gadchiroli district, Maharashtra, India. There are 237 species belonging to 184 genera and 73 families which are listed in this paper. Out of 73 families listed, 63 belong to dicotyledonae and 10 belong to monocotyledonae. Dominant families were Fabaceae (21 genera), Acanthaceae (12 genera) followed by Asteracece (9 genera). The nomenclature system followed in this paper is up to date. Three plants (1.63%) listed in this paper come under Vulnerable (VU) and two (1.09%) comes under Lower Risk (LR) categories. Eleven genera (5.98%) are reported to be endemic to Maharashtra state of India. Only one plant species (*Agave americana* var. *americana*) was not native of the area and is cultivated. Voucher specimens of the representative plants are submitted at Medicinal Plants Conservation Center (MPCC), Pune, Maharashtra, and the voucher number is provided along with names of plants.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, comprehensive floristic accounts have been published for various states, districts and regions of India (Kumar *et al.* 2007). However, for Gadchiroli district, no taxonomical study of the available plants has been carried so far, although few ethnobotanical studies are previously reported.

Major portion of the study area is covered with forest and the chief vegetation type is dry-deciduous (Tewari 1994; Tiwari and Padhye 1993) where teak and bamboo were found to be dominant elements. Many of the plants listed in this paper are utilized for medicinal purposes by the local tribal people, for example tree like *Butea monosperma*, *Lannea coramandelica, Holarrhena pubescens, Pterocarpus marsupium, Soymida febrifuga*, shrubs like *Ceriscoides turgida*, *Gardenia resinifera*, and herbs like *Andrographis paniculata, Cullen corylifolia, Curculigo orchioides* and *Orthosiphon rubicundus.* Summarily, the study aims to provide a list of plants occurring in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra state of India.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Present work is the outcome of 11 several seasonal field tours conducted during 2005- 2010. In every tour, attempts were made to collect speciments from all the areas of the district. Plants specimens were collected, dried, pressed and were identified with the help of published local flora, books (Cooke 1903; 1908; Sharma *et al.* 1996; Singh *et al.* 2001; Singh and Karthikeyan 2001) (Nagpur, Chandrapur) and by consulting the BSI western circle herbarium specimens . Plant specimens are deposited in the herbarium of Medicinal Plant Conservation Center, Pune (MPCC), Maharashtra under the first author's name.

Gadchiroli District, is situated in the South-eastern corner of Maharashtra, and is bounded by Chandrapur district in the west, Gondia District in the north, Chhatisgarh state in the east, and Andhra Pradesh state in the south and southwest (Figure 1). Gadchiroli district lies between 19°31' & 19°45' N latitude and 80°15' & 80°45' E longitude (Tiwari 1994). Total land cover of the study area is 14412.0 sq. km. Out of which, nearly 78.4% (i.e.11694.0 sq. km.) is covered by reserve or protected forest. Dhanora, Etapalli, Aheri and Sironcha talukas in the eastern part of the district are covered by forest. Remaining 1.55% land of the total area is wasteland. The area receives an annual rainfall of nearly 1510 mm (http://nagpur.nic.in/

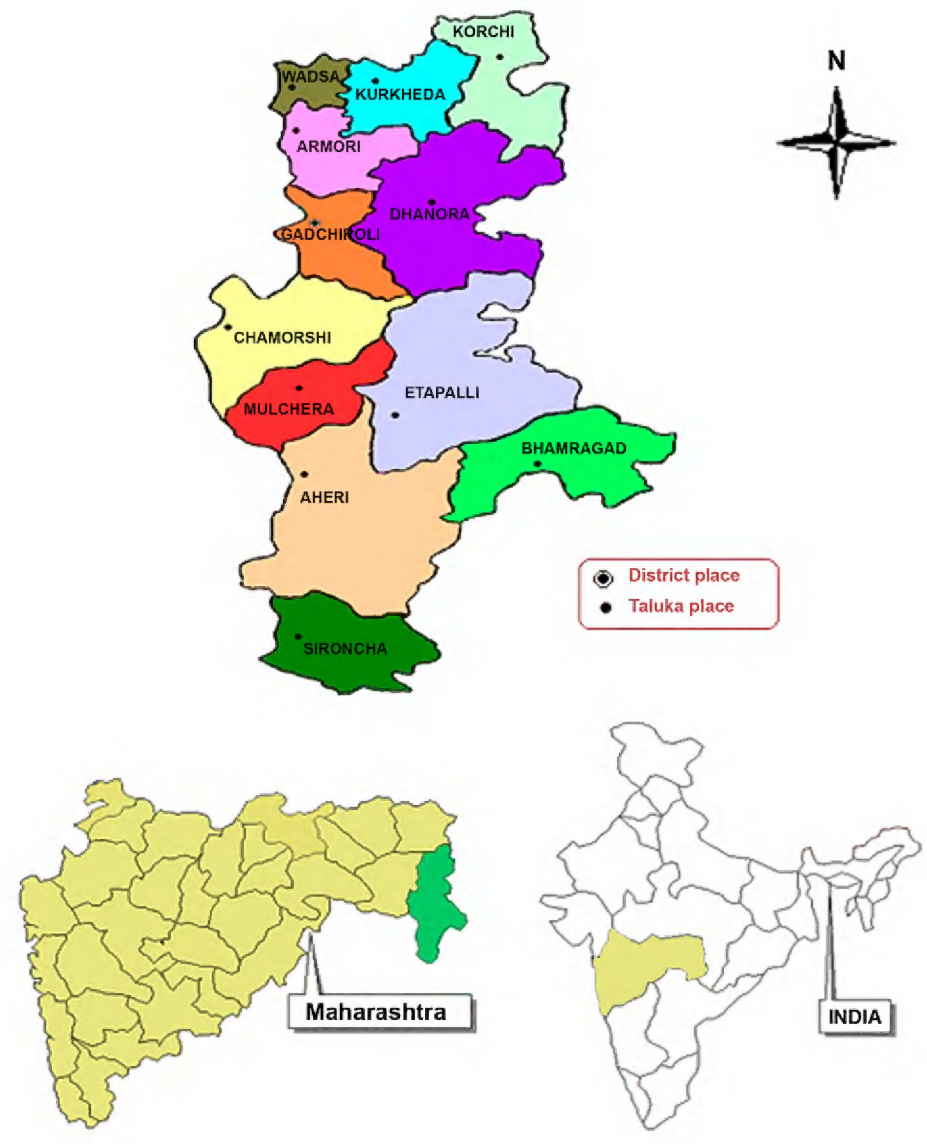

FIGURE 1. Map showing study area at Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra, India.

divisionalcommissioner/Dist_info/GAD.html). The main river basin of the district is the Godavari, which flows west to east and forms the southern boundary of the district. Gadchiroli district has prominent hills like Bhamragad, Tipagad, Palasgad and Surjagad area (Tiwari 1994) and is inhabited by tribes such as the Halbi, Gond, Pawra, Bhil (Tiwari and Padhye 1993).

Main text of the research paper is table number 1 which gives floristic components of Gadchiroli. The botanical names of plants are given under family names (arranged alphabetically) followed by distribution, local names and the voucher specimen number under which the specimens are deposited at the MPCC.

Results and Discussion

Species diversity

During the study, as many as 237 species of 184 genera belonging to 73 families (Table 1) were recorded. Out of these families, 10 belong to monocotyledonae (13.7 %) and 63 are from dicotyledonous plant families (86.3 % dicotyledones). The families with highest number of species were Fabaceae (21 genera; 11.41 %), Acanthaceae (12 genera; 6.52 %), Asteracece (9 genera; 4.89 %), Euphorbiaceae and Rubiaceae (8 genera; 4.35 %) followed by Convolvulaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Lamiaceae (6 genera each; 3.26 %), together represented 30.43% of all identified genera. Amongst monocotyledonous plants, Liliaceae represented maximum number of genera (4; 2.17 %) followed by Araceae, Poaceae and Zingiberaceae (3 each; 1.63 %). Thirty two (32; 43.8 %) families were represented by single genus and single species in the study area. In our sample most of the species (99.5 %) were native to the region and only one plant was cultivated (*Agave americana* var. *americana*). Tree species of the study area plays a vital role for day to day life of the tribal communities. Teak, bamboo being predominant components of the forest and are regularly used by the tribes for making home. Many plants listed here are used by local tribes for different purposes including medicinal aspect (Tewari 1994; Tiwari and Padhye 1993). Distribution of these listed plants were documented as abundant, common, cultivated, occasional based on the number of times they were encountered during exploration.

Status Determination of taxa

To assign status of distribution pattern of a taxa, the flora of Maharashtra by singh et. al (2001) and Singh and Karthikeyan (2001) were referred. Eleven plants (5.98%) which are endemic to Maharashtra state of India are reported from the study area, viz., *Alysicarpus belgaumensis, Amorphophallus commutatus, Arisaema murrayi, Barleria gibsoni, Blumea eriantha, Boswellia serrata, Canscora decurrens, Crotolaria filipes* var. *trichophor, Curcuma pseudomontana, Gantelbua urens, Haplanthodes verticillatus.* Three taxa (1.63 %) reported form the study area fall under vulnerable category (VU) like *Alysicarpus belgummensis, Arisaema murrayi, Barleria gibsonii*, and two (1.09 %) fall under lower risk (LR) category like *Amorphophallus commutatus* and *Haplanthodes verticillatus* (Singh *et al.* 2001; Singh and Karthikeyan 2001).

Thus this paper gives superficial idea about floristic composition of Gadchiroli district.

Table 1. List of plants their families, distribution, local name and herbarium number.

FAMILY and PLANT NAME	DISTRIBUTION	LOCAL NAME	HERBARIUM NUMBER
Acanthaceae			
Andrographis paniculata (Burm. f.) Wall. ex Nees	C	Bhuinimb	52
Barleria cristata var. *cristata* L.	Oc		1552
Barleria gibsoni Dalz.	Oc	Katrangi	1775
Barleria prionitis ssp. prionitis L.	C		2060
Blepharis maderaspatensis (L.) Roth	C		699
Gantelbua urens (Heyne ex Roth) Bremek.	Oc		3407
Haplanthodes verticillatus (Roxb.) R. B. Majumdar	C		2512
Hemigraphis lateborsa var. *lateborsa* (Heyne ex Roth) Nees.	C		2027
Hygrophila schulli (Buch.-Ham.) M. R. and S. M. Almeida	C		-
Justicia adhatoda L.			2064
Justicia glauca Rottl.	C		3357
Lepidagathis cristata Willd.	C	Kumbha, Kateri zendu	1556
Rostellularia crinita (Willd.) Nees.	C		274
Rostellularia diffusa Nees.	C		121
Ruellia tuberosa L.	Oc	Mendholi	-
Rungia pectinata (L.) Nees.	C		1557
Agavaceae			
Agave americana var. americana L.	Cult.		
Alangiaceae			
Alangium salvifolium var. *salvifolium* (L. f.) Wangerin	R	Aankol	-
Amaranthaceae			
Achyranthes aspera var. aspera L.	C	Aghada	1599
Aerva lanata (L.) Juss. ex Schult.	C		2003
Amaranthus spinosus L.	C		2033

TABLE 1. ***CONTINUED.***

FAMILY and PLANT NAME	DISTRIBUTION	LOCAL NAME	HERBARIUM NUMBER
Anacardiaceae			
Buchanania cochinchinensis (Lour.) Almeida	C	Char	2023
Lannea coromandelica (Houtt.) Merr.	C	Mowai	-
Mangifera indica L.	C	Amba	-
Semecarpus anacardium var. anacardium L. f.	R	Biba	863
Apocynaceae			
Holarrhena pubescens (Buch.-Ham.) Wall. ex G. Don	C	Pandra kuda	2007
Wrightia tinctoria var. *rothii* (G. Don) Ngan	C	Kadu kuda	152
Araceae			
Amorphophallus commutatus Engl.	C		-
Arisaema murrayi Hook.	O	Var	-
Colocasia esculanta Schott	Oc	Kochai	1891
Arecaceae			
Phoenix sylvestris (L.) Roxb.	R	Shindi	-
Asclepiadaceae			
Calotropis gigantea (L.) Ait.	Oc	Rui	2022
Calotropis procera (Ait.) R. Br.	Oc	Rui	-
Cryptolepis buchanani Roem. and Schult.	C		261
Pergularia daemia (Forssk.) Choiv.	Oc		784
Asteraceae			
Ageratum conyzoides L.	C		1513
Bidens biternata (Lour.) Merr. and Sherff.	C		187
Blumea eriantha DC.	C	Tambati	1183
Eclipta prostata (L.) L.	Oc		2714
Elephantopus scaber L.	C	Jata shankar	77
Emilia sonchifolia (L.) DC.	C		1567
Lagascea mollis Cav.	C		2741
Sphaeranthus indicus L.	Ab	Godhurli	-
Tridax procumbens L.	C	Kubadmodi	1544
Balanitaceae			
Balanites aegyptiaca (L.) Del.	Oc		-
Balsaminaceae			
Impatiens balsamina var. balsamina L.	R		2057
Bignonaceae			
Stereospermum chelenoides (L. f.) DC.	R	Parad	90
Stereospermum colais (Buch.-Ham. ex Dillw.) Mabberley.	Oc	Surya	2081
Dolichandrone falcata (Wall. ex. DC.) Seem.	C	Medshingi	-
Bombacaceae			
Bombax ceiba L.	Oc	Semal	-
Brassicaceae			
Brassica nigra (L.) Koch	Oc		1323
Burseraceae			
Boswellia serrata Roxb. ex Colebr.	Oc	Salai	-
Caesalpinaceae			
Bauhinia purpurea L.	C		707
Bauhinia racemosa Lam.	C	Chehra	903
Bauhinia tomentosa L.	Oc		2622
Cassia fistula L.	Oc	Bahawa	-
Cassia pumila Lam.	C	-	1572
Cassia tora L.	C	Tarota	1107
Tamarindus indica L.	C	Chinch	2012
Campanulaceae			
Wahlenbergia erecta (Roth ex R and S.) Moeliona and Tuyn	Oc		-
Capparidaceae			
Capparis zeylanica L.	Oc	Warakali	777
Celastraceae			
Cassine glauce (Rottb.) O. Ktez.	R		2246
Celastrus paniculatus Willd.	Oc	Pinphar	2087
Maytenus senegalensis (Lam.) Excell	C	Bharkad	2479

TABLE 1. ***CONTINUED.***

FAMILY and PLANT NAME	DISTRIBUTION	LOCAL NAME	HERBARIUM NUMBER
Cocholospermaceae			
Cochlospermum religiosum (L.) Alst.	C	Ghongal	-
Combrataceae			
Anogeissus latifolia (Roxb. ex DC.) Wall. ex Guill. and Perr.	C	Dhawda	2211
Calycopteris floribunda (Roxb.) Poir.	Ab	Jilbuli	367
Combretum albidum G. Don	Fr	piwalwel	106
Combretum latifolium Bl.	Fr	piwalwel	2786
Terminalia bellirica (Gaerten.) Roxb.	Oc		-
Terminalia chebula Retz.	Oc	ajan	158
Terminalia elliptica Willd.	C	Ain	731
Commelinaceae			
Cyanotis cristata Don.	C		2600
Murdannia nudiflora Brenan	C		1591
Convolvulaceae			
Argyreia sericea Dalz. and Gibs.	Oc		1077
Cuscuta chinensis var. *chinensis* Lam.	Oc		-
Cuscuta reflexa Roxb.	R		-
Evolvulus alsinoides (L.) L.	C	Vishnu kranta	2717
Ipomoea cairica (L.) Sweet	C	Ganbhowara	3121
Ipomoea pes-tigrides L.	Oc	Bilukhoj	122
Merremia gangetica (L.) Cufod.	C		2059
Cucurbitaceae			
Coccinia grandis (L.) Voigt	R	Tondalvel, Rantondli	-
Luffa acutangula (L.) Roxb.	Oc	Randodka	-
Momordica dioica Roxb. ex Willd.	C	Katul	735
Mukia maderaspatana (L.) Roem.	Oc		3154
Trichosanthes anguina L.	C	Indravan	-
Trichosanthes cucumerina L.	C	Indravan	-
Trichosanthes tricuspidata Lour.	C	Padora	925
Cyperaceae			
Kyllinga brevifolia Rottb.	C		-
Kyllinga melanosperma Nees.	C		
Kyllinga nemoralis Nees.			3191
Kyllinga tenuifolia Steud.	C		1148
Dioscoriaceae			
Dioscorea belophylla Haines	Oc	Kadukanda	-
Dioscorea bulbifera L.	C	Mataru vel	906
Ebenaceae			
Diospyros melanoxylon Roxb.	C	Tendu	3217
Diospyros montana Roxb.	Oc		2336
Eriocaulaceae			
Eriocaulon cinereum R.Br.	C		2580
Eriocaulon elenorae Fyson	C		-
Euphorbiaceae			
Acalypha ciliata Forssk.	Oc		1125
Antidesma acidum Retz.	R		860
Bridelia hamiltoniana Wall. ex Muell-Arg.	C	Kudurshi	-
Bridelia retusa (L.) Spr.	Oc	Kasai	464
Cleistanthus collinus (Roxb.) Benth.ex Hook. f.	Ab	Garari	-
Emblica officinalis Gaertn.	Oc	Aawarun / Amla	1533
Euphorbia geniculata Orteg.	C		2504
Euphorbia hirta L.	C	Kachara	1507
Euphorbia rosea Retz.	C		2915
Mallotus philippinesis (Lam.) Muell.-Arg.	R	Shendri	927
Phyllanthus urinaria L.	C	Bhui awli	702
Phyllanthus virgatus Forst. f.	Oc	Bhuiawali	871
Fabaceae			
Aeschynomene aspera L.	Oc		-
Alysicarpus belgaumensis Wight	Oc	Mothi chiputi	1373

Table 1. ***Continued.***

FAMILY and PLANT NAME	DISTRIBUTION	LOCAL NAME	HERBARIUM NUMBER
Alysicarpus hamosus Edgew.	C		24
Alysicarpus tetragonolobus Edgew.	C		119
Butea monosperma var. *monosperma* Roxb. ex Willd.	C	Palas	2904
Butea superba Roxb. ex Willd.	Oc	Palaswel	-
Cajanus platycarpus (Benth.) Vander der Maesen	C	Supulsheng	3403
Cajanus scarabaeoides (L.) du-Petit-Thours	C		67
Crotalaria filipes var. *trichophora* (Bth. ex Baker) T. Cooke	Oc		2631
Crotalaria hebecarpa (DC.) Rudd	C		3156
Crotalaria hirsuta Willd.	Oc	Tichakali	40
Cullen corylifolia (L.) Medik.	R		946
Dalbergia lanceolaria ssp. *lanceolaria* L. f.	C	Shevdor	-
Desmodium gangeticum (L.) DC.	C		87
Desmodium triflorum (L.) DC.	C	Chiputi	1570
Desmodium velutinum (Willd.) DC.	C	Chipadi	145
Indigofera trita var. *trita* L.	C	Ranmethi	3423
Macrotyloma uniflorum (Lam.) Verdc.	Oc		709
Pongamia pinnata (L.) Pierre	Oc	Karanj	-
Pterocarpus marsupium var. *marsupium* Roxb.	Ab	Biwala	755
Teramnus labialis (L. f.) Spreng.	C	Ranudid, Tipani	2629
Teramnus mollis Bth.	Oc		3166
Vigna aconitifolia (Jacq.) Marechal	C		89
Vigna dalzelliana (O. Ketz.) Verdc	C	Rangavar	1558
Zornia gibbosa Span.	Ab		1571
Flacourtiaceae			
Caeseria graveolens Dalz.	R	Kukuddawana	-
Caeseria tomentosa Roxb.	R		-
Flacourtia indica (Burm. f.) Merr.	C	Kakai	-
Gentianaceae			
Canscora decurrens Dalz.	Oc		942
Canscora decussata (Roxb.) A.schult and J.H.schult	Oc		1555
Exacum pumilum Griseb.	C		3363
Hypoxidaceae			
Curculigo orchioides Geartn.	Oc	Dukkarkand, kali Musli	1142
Lamiaceae			
Hyptis suaveolens (L.) Poit.	Oc		2202
Lavendula bipinnata var. *rothina* O. Ketz.	C		940
Leucas aspera (Willd.) Link.	C		2062
Leucas stelligera Wall.	C		1935
Leucas stricta Bth.	C		195
Ocimum americanum L.	C		2005
Ocimum basilicum var. *thyrsiflora* Bth.	C		1114
Ocimum tenuiflorum L.	Oc		3431
Orthosiphon rubicundus (D. Don) Benth.	C		867
Tectona grandis L. f.	C	sag	-
Lecythidaceae			
Careya arborea Roxb.	Oc	Kumbha	-
Leeaceae			
Leea indica (Burm. f.) Merr.	Oc		3161
Liliaceae			
Asparagus racemosus var. *racemosus* Willd.	A	Marbat	1558
Chlorophytum laxum R. Br.	C	Musali	667
Chlorophytum tuberosum Baker	C	Safed musali	668
Gloriosa superba L.	Oc	Karkari	1523
Scilla hyacinthina Mc Bride	C		2006
Loganiaceae			
Mitreola petiolata (J.F.Gmel.)Torr.and A.Grey	O		61
Loranthaceae			
Dendrophthoe falcata var. *falcata* (L. f.) Etting	Oc		-

TABLE 1. ***CONTINUED.***

FAMILY and PLANT NAME	DISTRIBUTION	LOCAL NAME	HERBARIUM NUMBER
Lythraceae			
Ammannia auriculata Willd.	Oc		133
Lagerstromea parviflora Roxb.	Oc	Sehna	265
Woodfordia fruticosa (L.) Kurz	C	Jilbuli	54
Malvaceae			
Sida acuta Burm. f.	C		118
Sida cordifolia L.	C	Chikna	2537
Sida rhombifolia L.	C		2408
Urena lobata L.	C		1771
Martyniaceae			
Martynia annua L.	Oc	Vagh nakhi	2938
Melastomataceae			
Osbeckia muralis Naud.	Oc		-
Meliaceae			
Azadirachta indica A. Juss.	R		-
Chlroxylon swietenia DC.	R	Mhasawad	-
Soymida febrifuga (Roxb.) A. Juss.	C	Rohan	2618
Menispermaceae			
Cocculus hirsutus (L.) Theob.	Oc	vasanvel	105
Mimosaceae			
Acacia catechu (L. f.) Willd.	Oc	Khair	1115
Acacia leucophloea (Roxb.) Willd.	C	Hivar	2245
Acacia torta (Roxb.) Craib	C	Chilati	-
Albizia lebbeck var. *lebbeck* (L.) Benth.	Oc		-
Albizia odoratissima var. *subhedarii* (L.) Benth.	C	Chichva	772
Albizia procera (Roxb.) Benth.	Oc		-
Xylia xylocarpa(Roxb.) Taub.	R	Surya	
Moraceae			
Ficus amplissima J. E. Sm.	R	Pakali	1878
Ficus benghalensis L.	R		-
Ficus racemosa L.	R		-
Ficus religiosa L.	Oc	Pimpal	-
Nyctaginaceae			
Boerhavia repens var. *diffusa* L.	C		2509
Olacaceae			
Olax psittacorum (Willd.) Vahl.	Oc	Haradphari	656
Oleaceae			
Schrebera swietenioides Roxb.	Oc	Mokha	-
Onagraceae			
Ludwigia octovalis var. *sessiliflora* (Micheli.) Raven	Oc		2705
Opiliaceae			
Cansjera rheedii Gmel.	Oc	Haradfari	-
Orchidaceae			
Rhynchostylis retusa Bl.	Oc	Kanda	-
Vanda tessellata (Roxb.) Hook.	Oc	Banda	587
Vanda testacea Reich. f.	Oc		383
Oxalidaceae			
Biophytum candolleanum Wight	C	Lajalu	75
Biophytum reinwardtii (Zucc.) Klotz.	C	Lajalu	2431
Pedaliaceae			
Sesamum orientale L.	C	Til	3411
Periplocaceae			
Hemidesmus indicus (L.) Schult.	C		494
Poaceae			
Cymbopogon martinii Wats.	C		2647
Cynadon dactylon Pers.	C		-
Dendrocalamus strictus Nees.	Oc	Bamboo / Welu / Kalka	255
Polygalaceae			
Polygala arvensis Willd.	C		1128

TABLE 1. ***CONTINUED.***

FAMILY and PLANT NAME	DISTRIBUTION	LOCAL NAME	HERBARIUM NUMBER
Rhamnaceae			
Ventilago denticulata Willd.	Oc	Popati	101
Ziziphus caracutta Roxb.	Oc	Guti	856
Ziziphus mauritiana Lam.	C	Bor	904
Ziziphus oenoplia (L.) Mill.	Oc	-	63
Rubiaceae			
Catunaregam spinosa (Thunb.) Tirvengadum	Oc	Ghera	-
Ceriscoides turgida (Roxb.) Tirveng.	R	Phedra pandra	-
Gardenia latifolia Soland.	Oc	Kudmodi	-
Gardenia resinifera Roth.	C	Mali, Jondhurli	2206
Haldina cordifolia (Roxb.) Rasad.	Oc		2510
Ixora pavetta Andr.	R	Lokhandi	2621
Mitragyna parvifolia (Roxb.) Korth.	C	Kalam	957
Spermacoce articularis L. f.	Oc		3105
Tamilnadia uliginosa (Retz.) Tirveng. and Sastre.	R	Kala phedra	-
Rutaceae			
Aegle marmalos (L.) Corr.	R		-
Sapindaceae			
Schleichera oleosa (Lour.) Oken	Oc	Kojab	386
Sapotaceae			
Madhuca longifolia var. *longifolia* (Koen.) Mac Bride	Ab	Mahuwa / Mowa	-
Scrophulariaceae			
Bacopa monnieri (L.) Penn.	R		959
Buchnera hispida Buch.-Ham. ex D. Don	Oc		2067
Lindernia ciliata (Colsm.) Penn.	C		68
Lindernia viscosa (Horhem.) Boldingh	C		1817
Sopubia delphinifolia var. *delphinifolia* (L.) G. Don	Oc		2579
Striga densiflora (Benth.) Benth.	Oc	Agaya	2641
Smilacaceae			
Smilax perfoliata Lour.	Oc	Sherdira	2473
Solanaceae			
Datura metel L.	Oc		-
Physalis minima L.	C		2507
Solanum virginianum L.	C	Bhuiringni	2403
Sterculiaceae			
Eriolaena quinquelocularis (Wight and Arn.) Wight	C	Bothi	3188
Helicteres isora L.	C	Atai	60
Sterculia urens Roxb.	Oc		-
Tiliaceae			
Corchorus olitorius L.	C	Chuch	30
Corchorus tridens L.	C		3164
Grewia damine Gaertn.	C		864
Grewia tiliifolia Vahl.	Oc	Dhaman	856
Verbenaceae			
Clerodendrum serratum (L.) Moon.	R	Pimphar / Pinkphar	936
Symphorema involucratum Roxb.	R		-
Vitex negundo L.	C		2624
Violaceae			
Hybanthus enneaspermus (L.) F. v. Muell.	C	Lendoli	3178
Vitaceae			
Ampelocissus latifolia (Roxb.) Planch.	Oc	Dokel	2010
Cissus repanda Vahl	C	Dokel vel	706
Zinziberaceae			
Costus speciosus Sm.	Oc	Harduli, Kevkand	-
Curcuma pseudomontana Grahm.	C	Ranhalad	-
Zingiber cernuum Dalz.	R	Ran ale	-

Acknowledgments: The authors are grateful to Prof. P K Ranjekar, Director IRSHA, Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Pune for giving the opportunity to work.

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Received: September 2011
Accepted: November 2012
Published online: February 2013
Editorial responsibility: Angelo Gilberto Manzatto